5

Patent Claims

1. A liquid-crystalline medium of positive dielectric anisotropy, which comprises one or more compounds of the formula I

$$R^1 \longrightarrow H \longrightarrow O \longrightarrow X^1$$

in which

R¹ is an alkyl or alkenyl radical having 1 or 2 to 7 carbon atoms respectively, and

 X^1 is F, OCF₃ or OCHF₂;

one or more compounds of the formula II

$$R^2$$
 H O F X^2 H

in which

R² is an alkyl or alkenyl radical having 1 or 2 to 7 carbon atoms respectively, and

 X^2 is F, OCF₃ or OCHF₂; and

one or more compound(s) of the formula IV

25

20

$$R^4 - H - H - O - X^4$$

in which

R⁴ is an alkyl or alkenyl radical having 1 or 2 to 7 carbon atoms respectively,

 X^4 is F, Cl, OCF₃ or OCHF₂, and

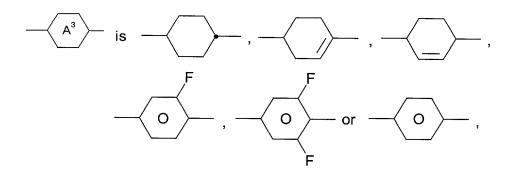
k is 0 or 1.

2. The medium according to Claim 1, which further comprises one or more compounds of the formula III

$$R^3$$
 X^{31} X^{32} X^{32} X^{33} X^{32} X^{33} X^{33}

in which

- R³ is an alkyl or alkenyl radical having 1 or 2 to 7 carbon atoms respectively,
- Z³² and, if present, Z³¹ are each, independently of one another, -CH₂-CH₂-, -CH=CH- or a single bond,



 X^3 is F, OCF₃ or OCHF₂, and

r is 0 or 1.

3. A medium according to Claim 1, which further comprises one or more compounds of the formula V

$$\mathsf{R}^{51} \qquad \mathsf{H} \qquad \mathsf{A}^{51} \qquad \mathsf{R}^{52} \qquad \mathsf{R}^{52} \qquad \mathsf{V}$$

in which

$$A^{51}$$
, A^{52} and A^{53} $-$

are each, independently of one another,

5

R⁵¹ and R⁵² are each, independently of one another, an alkyl, alkoxy or alkenyl radical having 1 or 2 to 7 carbon atoms respectively, and

n and m are each, independently of one another, 0 or 1.

4. A medium according to Claim 2, which further comprises one or more compounds of the formula V

in which

$$A^{51}$$
, A^{52} and A^{53} $-$

are each, independently of one another,

R⁵¹ and R⁵² are each, independently of one another, an alkyl, alkoxy or alkenyl radical having 1 or 2 to 7 carbon atoms respectively, and

n and m are each, independently of one another, 0 or 1.

20

- 5. A medium according to Claim 1, wherein the proportion of compounds of the formula I in the medium as a whole is at least 5% by weight.
- 6. A medium according to Claim 4, wherein the proportion of compounds of the formulae II to V together in the medium as a whole is from 40% to 90% by weight.
- 7. A multibottle liquid-crystal system which comprises a medium according to claim 1.
- 8. An electro-optical device which comprises a liquid-crystalline medium of claim 1.
- 9. A medium according to claim 4, which consists essentially of compounds of the formulae I to V.
- A medium according to claim 1, which exhibits a nematic phase at least down to -20°C and at least above 75°C, a birefringence value of ≤ 0.090 or ≥ 0.100, and a rotational viscosity, γ₁ at 20°C, of 160mPa's.
- 11. A medium according to claim 4 which comprises a concentration of 3-65% compounds of the formula I, 3-40% of compounds of the formula II, 2-50% of compounds of the formula III, 10-50% of compounds of the formula IV and 0-30% of compounds of the formula V.
- 12. A medium according to claim 4, which comprises more than 50% of compounds of the formula I to V.
- 13. A medium according to claim 4 which comprises more than 90% of compounds of the formula I to V.
- 14. A medium according to claim 2, which consists essentially of compounds of the formula I to IV.

15. A medium according to claim 1, wherein, in formula IV, X⁴ is F or OCF₃.